

Amendments to the Specification

Please amend paragraph 7 on page 8, beginning at line 25 as follows:

B1
A mechanical friction clutch for use on a vehicle with a clutch pedal is used for the starting clutch 2, which is normally engaged by virtue of the biasing force of a diaphragm spring 2a, whereas it is disengaged by a release fork 2b via a release bearing 2c, when the diaphragm spring 2a is pressed in. Then, a piston rod 9a of a hydraulic cylinder 9 serving as an actuator is brought into abutment with the release fork 2b so as to operate the release fork 2b by the hydraulic cylinder 9, to thereby arbitrarily control the transmission torque capacity of the starting clutch 2. As shown in Fig. 2, a hydraulic circuit 10 of the hydraulic cylinder 9 includes an electromagnetic control valve 101 which is controlled by a clutch controller 11. The clutch controller 11 is adapted to control the supply and discharge of hydraulic oil to and from the hydraulic cylinder 9. Oil discharged from an electric pump 103 is supplied to an oil supply path 102 communicating a control valve 101 via a check valve 104. The electric pump 103 has, as a driving source, a motor 103a which is controlled by the clutch controller 11. Connected to the oil supply path 102 are a relief valve 105, an accumulator 106 and an oil pressure sensor 107, whereby signals from the oil pressure sensor 107 are inputted into the clutch controller 11. And, in case the oil pressure in the oil supply 102 detected by the oil pressure sensor 107 decreases below a predetermined line pressure, the electric pump 103 is driven until the oil pressure in the oil supply path 102 reaches the predetermined line pressure.